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The Story of Achilles from Homer's Iliad. Edited with notes and introduction by the late JOHN HENRY PRATT, M. A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Assistant Master at Harrow School, and WALTER LEAF, M. A., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. London: Macmillan & Co., 1880.

Mr. Pratt was drowned 'in the prime of health and vigor,' and Mr. Leaf has undertaken to edit his annotations and complete his work. I have looked through about a third of the notes, and have seen enough to convince me that Mr. Leaf would have done well to digest his material still further. The selection of the books—a selection suggested by Grote and De Quincey—is certainly of questionable wisdom; and the distinct effort to make the commentary a kind of Homeric dictionary and historical grammar is a mistake, in which, however, I am sorry to say, many will see a supereminent merit. In my judgment, no etymologies should be given in a commentary for schools except such as serve to light up the translation or to remove erroneous impressions, and as Homeric dictionaries of fair quality are in the hands of all schoolboys, I do not see the desirableness of giving the meaning and etymology of so many words about which there is no serious question. Memoranda which might have been useful to the teacher have been hastily incorporated into the notes. There is too anxious a display of recent authorities, and an evident forgetfulness that a theory which might interest the editor in its inchoate state may be a real disservice to the beginner; and when I read in the preface that the editor has 'purposely taken no notice of all the more recent discoveries in the original vowel system,' I shudder to think what he would have made of his book, if he had paraded the 'ablaut' through it. Luckily the notes have the great virtue of brevity, in which respect, La Roche, to whom the book is under numberless obligations, has been a most useful model. Sometimes, however, the notes are brief to a fault; perilous assertions are made and important matter overlooked. The knowledge of the annotators has not reached the clarified state; it has all the turbulent joy of a new possession, and hence inconsistencies are not surprising. So we are told at A 182 that *ὥς* in Homer does not mean 'since' *quoniam*, and with equally curt decisiveness that it does mean 'since' at Φ 291, where La Roche's note is '*ὥς* causal.' The speculations as to syntactical evolution are crude; the lamentation over the degradation of the future with *ἄν* to a solecism is a bit of wasted sentimentality. If *ὥς* in A 559 is final, how in the name of all that is Attic can *τιμῆσιν* stand for Attic *τιμήσιν*? When it is stated that *ἐφορᾶν* does not mean 'live to see,' the remark should be guarded. No meaning more common in Attic. The mistakes in accentuation, which are nearly all analogical mistakes and cannot be put off on the printer, are too numerous to be creditable to English scholarship, and the appearance of the text is far from being attractive.

B. L. G.

A Syllabus of Anglo-Saxon Literature. By J. M. HART (University of Cincinnati). Adapted from B. ten Brink's *Geschichte der englischen Literatur*. Cincinnati, 1881.

Professor Hart has done good service in preparing this brief outline (69 pages) of Anglo-Saxon literature. While based on ten Brink, it introduces subjects not